

Approved 10/28/19

Lex Littles Rules

Lex Littles is designed for players who are just beginning to learn the game of soccer. Thank you for volunteering your time to coach. Here are some answers to common questions about Lex Littles.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact our Lex Littles Coordinator, Melanie Walker, at melwalker0915@gmail.com or text/call 567-303-4020.

At this age there will be a lot of bumping into one another and falling down. This is normal. If you need to stop the game for any intentional hand balls, trips, pushes, etc., use it as a coaching opportunity and explain to the player why that is not allowed. Be friendly and remember you are dealing with small children.

GAME LENGTH, BALL SIZE, PLAYERS, REFS:

- 20 minutes before each game there is a scheduled practice time for all teams. For example, if the scheduled game time is 6:30 pm, both teams will practice until 6:50 pm then begin the game.
- There are **NO GOALIES**. Do not leave a player standing in the middle of the goal.
- Games are 4 v 4. (Usually 2 forwards and 2 defenders)
- Size 3 ball
- Playing time is split into 6-minute quarters (4) with a 5-minute halftime.
- Head Coaches are the referees for the game. You and the other coach will be on the field, at least one coach will need a whistle.

CLOTHING:

- Lexington Soccer Association will supply a team jersey for each registered player.
- Shin Guards are **MANDATORY** for all players
- Soccer cleats or tennis shoes may be worn. Soccer cleats are recommended because tennis shoes make slipping a highly probable, which can lead to injury.

FOULS & STOPPAGES:

- Goals straight from the kickoff do not count unless they have touched another player first before going in the goal. If a player does kick it in, bring the ball back and congratulate them on a big kick, but explain the ball needs to be passed first and retake the kick.
- No **intentional** headers
- No **intentional** hand-balls (accidental hand-balls can be allowed since they are learning)
- No High-Kicks, anything over the waist of another player should be called, for safety.
- All free kicks will be Indirect (restarts for fouls or penalties such as intentional heading, tripping, pushing, handballs, etc). It must touch another player after being kicked before going into the goal.

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- Throw-ins will be taken.
 - If team A kicks the ball out then team B throws the ball in. Both feet should stay on the ground and the ball must be thrown over the child's head.
 - Incorrect throw-ins do not result in forfeiting the throw-in. Simply have the child throw it again. If they don't get it right the second time – let it go.
 - You cannot score directly from a throw-in unless it touches another player first before entering the goal.
- A Goal Kick or Corner Kick will be taken if the ball goes over the end line.
 - If the attacking team kicks the ball out over the defending team's end line, then the defending team will take a goal kick from the top of their goal box.
 - The team not taking the goal kick should have all of their players at least back to midfield before the goal kick is taken.
 - If the defending team kicks the ball out over their own end line, then the attacking team will take a corner kick from the defending team's end at the corner nearest to where the ball went out.

WEATHER, CANCELLATIONS, RESCHEDULING:

- Players must get off the field if there is **ANY** Thunder or Lightning. You must wait 30 minutes from the last strike of lightning or the last roll of thunder to re-start the game. It is the coach's call if the game should be cancelled.
- Rescheduling of games is also up to the coaches. There are no other games played on our Littles fields, if there are no games scheduled you may have a make-up game at a time you and the other coach can agree on (even if it is not on a Monday, Thursday or Saturday). It will be your responsibility as a coach to let your players know.
- The AYSA hotline number for any field cancellations is 419-525-2972. This is for when LSA closes the fields for weather related issues. LSA also posts field closings on the LSA Facebook page. The hotline is updated generally after 4pm during the week and 8am on Saturdays.